

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed March 27, 2009. Claims 6 and 8-12 were pending in the Application. In the office Action, Claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected. Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 8-12 and added claims 13-15. In view of the following remarks and new claims, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 6 was objected to because it was missing the part (iii) of the previously amended versions without showing the deletion. In addition, new claim 12 was objected to because it depends from claim 6 but refers to "the changing synchronization value" of claim 9. Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 12; accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to claims 6 and 12.

SECTION 112 REJECTIONS

Claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants have canceled claims 6 and 8-12; accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

REJECTIONS UNDER SECTIONS 102 & 103

Claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,868,904 to Bruwer. Claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruwer in combination with U.S. Patent 4,800,524 to Roesgen. Furthermore, claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruwer in view of U.S. Patent 4,484,262 to Sullivan. Finally, claims 6 and 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bruwer in view of Roesgen or Sullivan, and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,750,118 Heitschel, or U.S. Patent RE37,986 to Heitschel. Without admitting the accuracy of the Examiner's rejections, Applicants cancel claims 6 and 8-12 and add new claims 13-15, which are based, in part, upon the claim in U.S. Patent 6,667,684, the parent of the present application. Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 13-15 are patentable over the cited and applied art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of new claims 13-16.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or to credit any fee overpayment relating to this matter to Deposit Account No. 07-0153.

Respectfully submitted,

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